

City May Resist Curbside Mailbox Edict

Torrance Press-Herald

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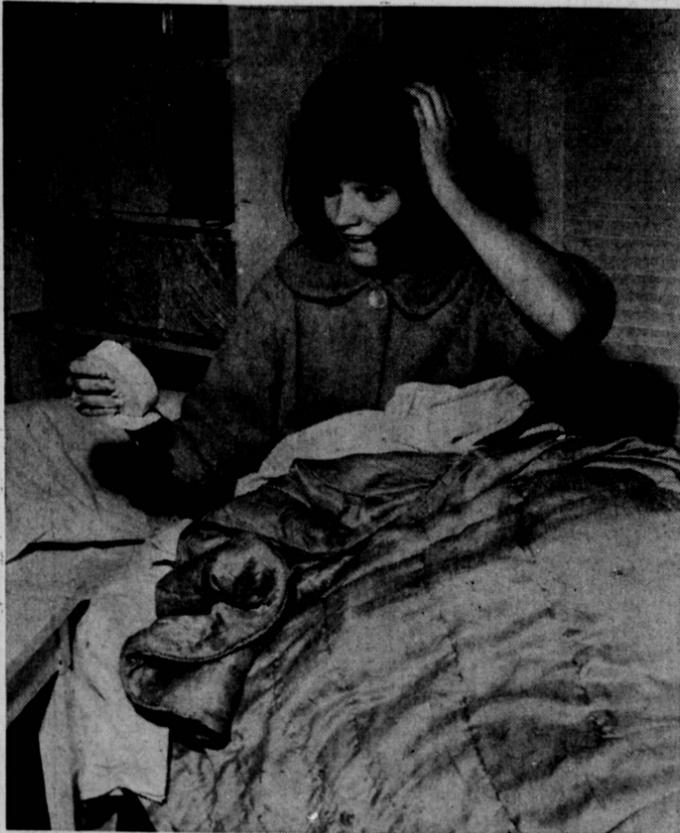
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HOLY NIGHTMARE . . . For 17-year-old Linda Levanas, a South High senior, Sunday has started out all wrong. Already she is an hour behind schedule and thinks some fiend has Zapped! her alarm clock. Actually, it was the kindly old gent known as Daylight Savings Time that takes the blame. All clocks should have been turned ahead one hour earlier today.

(Press-Herald Photo by Hal Fisher)

Discount Store Furor Goes to City Council

Curbside Postal Delivery Slated In Newer Areas

New homes being built in Torrance are going to get a different kind of mail service—and the change in policy already has caused disagreement between the city and the United States Post Office.

New postal regulations require the Torrance post office to limit mail service in newly developed areas to "curb line boxes," according to Carl Backlund, acting postmaster.

To that end, Backlund, in a letter to the city, has asked for "any aid the city of Torrance can give in having a clear space between the curb and sidewalk for curb line boxes." Backlund said mail delivery cannot be approved to newly developed areas where the sidewalk extends to the curb.

Walter M. Nollac, director of public works, will ask that the letter be referred to the Torrance Beautiful Commission "for consideration and appropriate action."

Such a policy will cause complications in hillside areas, Nollac said, because sidewalks often must extend to the curb in those areas. "There is also the problem of esthetics in placing mail boxes at the curb line in new areas," Nollac added. His comments will be given to the City Council Tuesday.

Backlund, in his letter, said the new policy does not affect "fill-in areas." Such areas are defined as "added stops and deliveries in the carrier's present line of travel."

Motel Thief Gets Wallet From Sleeper

More than \$200 in cash was taken early Friday morning in two South Torrance burglaries.

Police said a burglar entered a motel room at 2900 W. Pacific Coast Hwy. and removed a wallet belonging to Thomas M. Kempson, 31, a salesman from St. Louis, Mo. The thief apparently tried to open a screen, then forced the door to gain entry.

Kempson's wallet was found outside the motel a short time after he reported the theft to police. The thief removed \$85 in cash from the wallet.

A SECOND wallet, containing \$120 in cash and several identification cards, was taken from the home of Joel C. Devenish, 21, at 4111 Pacific Coast Hwy. Devenish told police he had locked the front door before he went to bed Thursday evening, but found it standing open when he awoke Friday.

His driver's license, draft card, a check book, and other papers also were taken, Devenish reported. The total loss was placed at \$147.

IN A THIRD burglary, reported early Friday morning, a stereo tape player and radio was stolen from a limousine on display at Bill Hopkins Lincoln-Mercury, 20460 Hawthorne Blvd.



DR. DONALD E. WILSON Leaves for Africa

Educator Traveling To Africa

A Torrance educator and member of this city's Board of Education will leave tomorrow on the first leg of a trip which will take him around the world during the next six weeks.

Dr. Donald E. Wilson, 17022 Kornblum Ave., will spend most of the next six weeks in the new African nation of Malawi, a former British colony which achieved independence July 6, 1964. Before journeying to Malawi, however, Dr. Wilson will make stops in Washington, D.C., and London, England, for briefings.

Purpose of the trip is to conduct a survey of the teacher education program at Malawi's Polytechnic College—which Dr. Wilson describes as "a transplanted American junior college." The survey is part of a study being conducted in preparation for a possible loan to Malawi by the United States.

DR. WILSON, who is director of teacher education projects at the University of Southern California, will head the three-man survey team. Other members include Dr. Jack Rand, superintendent of schools in Temple City, Calif., and Dr. Bruce Hahn, a USC professor who is now in Malawi.

USC has a contract with Polytechnic College to furnish professional staff and advise members of the college administration since the new African college was organized.

The survey team is co-sponsored by the U. S. Department of State through its Agency for International Development (AID). That agency will make the loan to Malawi if it is granted.

THE EDUCATIONAL system in Malawi, Dr. Wilson explained, is patterned after the English system. He hopes the survey team, working with teachers and leaders in Malawi, can develop a system which "will reach all the way down to the African native."

Main purpose of the survey — apart from the analysis for AID — is to make recommendations which will help Polytechnic College, in cooperation with the University of Malawi, develop an effective teacher education program.

Such a program, is essential.

Residents Say Proposal Poses Threat to Area

City Councilmen will consider a zone change and precise plan of development to permit construction of a discount store at Crenshaw Boulevard and 182nd Street Tuesday.

The council will convene at 8 p.m., with the formal hearings on the proposed Gemco store scheduled early in the meeting.

The proposed development has been the center of a controversy in the North Torrance area for several weeks. The plan is opposed by many residents in the area who feel the development will increase the hazards which confront children walking to school.

BOTH THE Planning Commission and the Planning Department have recommended approval of the plan, subject to a list of some 22 conditions and restrictions. The development is opposed by the city's Public Works Department, however, because of disagreement with the Planning Commission about traffic patterns in the area.

Walter M. Nollac, director of public works, has asked that both the zone change and precise plan be denied. Nollac wants access to 182nd Street in the vicinity of the San Diego Freeway ramps denied to the store. He also has asked that Atkinson Avenue and a frontage road east of Crenshaw Boulevard be connected by a service road along the north side of the proposed store.

BOTH STREETS would dead-end at the Gemco property line under the plan approved by the Planning Commission.

A request by the Torrance Police Department that "speed bumps" be required in the parking lot of the proposed store is not included in the Planning Commission restrictions, although the commission has asked to re-

tain the right to require the bumps at a later date.

While the Planning Commission has recommended that the store have access to 182nd Street opposite the freeway ramps, it also asked that the developers be required to pay all costs incurred in modifications to the traffic signal and that "Watch for Children" signs be posted at the parking lot exits.

THE PROPERTY, currently zoned A-1 and R-2 is the site of a dairy. If the Planning Commission recommendations are accepted by the council, the dairy must be removed within eight months after the start of construction.

In other matters Tuesday, the council is scheduled to consider a proposed ordinance which would require permits to conduct parades in the city. No parade permits currently are required in Torrance.

Also on the agenda is a request for \$7,000 in gas tax funds for a survey of north-south streets easterly of Hawthorne Boulevard.

Heart Attack Blamed for Third Death

A heart attack may have caused the accident which resulted in Torrance's third traffic death of the year Friday.

Jack Guy Standing, 51, of 1844 Plaza Del Amo, was dead on arrival at Harbor General Hospital Friday after his car hit a utility pole at Plaza Del Amo and Western Avenue.

Police said there were no skid marks. Standing had been under the care of a physician.

The accident occurred about 7 a.m. as Standing approached Western Avenue on Plaza del Amo.

Asphalt Fire at Refinery . . .

Blazing asphalt at the Richfield Oil Corp. refinery near Wilmington Friday afternoon did an estimated \$10,000 damage. Refinery spokesmen reported that the flare-up apparently started when asphalt spilled into the distillation unit heater and was ignited. The burning material then ran into overflow pits which contained about 18 inches of the asphalt. Refinery fire units were able to control the flames without threat to other parts of the refinery.

Brush Fire Extinguished . . .

A small brush fire in Edison Co. right-of-way in the 4500 block of Cadison Street was extinguished by the Torrance Fire Department Friday afternoon. Police said two youths playing with matches in the area apparently started the fire. Both youngsters were released to their parents after officers warned them and the parents about the dangers of playing with matches.

Torrance Worker Killed . . .

A Torrance welder was killed Friday when he fell from the roof of a new shopping center building in Costa Mesa. The victim was identified as Troy McDaniel, 47, of 22917 Felbar Ave., and his death was reported from Santa Ana Community Hospital, where he was taken after he fell about 9 a.m. McDaniel was welding a roof deck on the new building when he apparently lost his balance, it was reported.

Begins Tomorrow

Torrance to Observe Public Schools Week

Activities in 33 elementary schools and 4 high schools here this week will be keyed to a nationwide observance of Public Schools Week, which begins tomorrow and continues through Saturday.

Purpose of the national observance, which began in California in 1920, is to focus attention on the activities and programs of America's public schools. Theme of the 1966 event is "Keep America Strong — Support Our Public Schools."

Highlighting activities will be science fairs at several of the city's elementary schools.

Winners in the individual fairs will compete in a Torrance Elementary Science Fair May 4 through 6 at the Torrance Recreation Center, 3341 Torrance Blvd.

OPEN HOUSES, tours of school facilities, and band concerts are scheduled throughout the school district during the week.

A special program commemorating the 47th anniversary of Public Schools Week will be sponsored by the Torrance Masonic Lodge Friday. The program will be present-

ed at 8 p.m. at the Masonic Temple.

Students will present a program of music and oratory talent for the Masons.

PROGRAM highlights will include an original history of America in song and choral verse and will be narrated by a group of eighth grade students from Arlington Elementary School. Richard Phebus will direct the program.

A speech on Americanism will be given by North High students Dennis De Leon and Karen Agnew, while polka dance music will be played by John Duncor, Jerry Blair, Pat Binford, John Anderson, Jack Laner, and Frank Maxim.

Final event of the week-long observance will be a "Meet and Greet the Authors" book fair at South High Saturday.

Students and parents will have an opportunity to meet 22 authors and illustrators of children's books during the program, which begins at 9 a.m. There is no admission charge and the fair is open to the public.

Listing of Newcomers Now Ready

A twice-monthly listing of newcomers to Torrance will be available to members of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, beginning this month, according to J. Walker Owens, general manager.

Cost of the publication will be \$2 per month, Owens said. The fee will cover preparation and mailing expenses of the booklet, which will list the name, address, and former place of residence of newcomers to the city.

The decision to publish the list was made in response to an increasing number of requests, Owens said. The listing will be compiled from existing sources and is not represented as a complete listing of all newcomers to the city.

Members of the chamber may subscribe to the list by writing to the Chamber's Information Department. Checks must be payable to the Torrance Chamber of Commerce and should be made for a minimum of \$12 for the first six months.

Three Persons Injured In City Traffic Crashes

Two persons suffered minor injuries Friday evening in separate collisions on Hawthorne Boulevard and a third person was injured in an accident at a grocery store parking lot.

Helen Sasuga of 20909 Avis Ave., suffered minor injuries to her right leg when the car in which she was riding was involved in a rear-end collision south of Torrance Boulevard about 7:30. She refused medical aid.

Drivers of the two cars involved were Nancy Jean Te-

bett, of 23820 Arlington Ave., and Dorothy H. Forsythe, of Hermosa Beach. The accident occurred as Miss Tebbetts approached the Carson Street intersection traveling south of Hawthorne Boulevard.

Mrs. Veronica Ida Real, of 5410 Arvada St., told police she would seek private medical attention after she was injured in a three-car collision about 7:45 p.m.

Police said the accident occurred on Hawthorne Boulevard just north of Emerald Street. A car driven by Thom-

as H. McAlexander, of Los Angeles was stopped in traffic which backed up to a signal at Torrance Boulevard.

McAlexander was struck from behind by a car driven by Cecil J. Whetstone, and Whetstone's vehicle was struck by Mrs. Real's car. Police said Whetstone and Mrs. Real were following the McAlexander vehicle too close.

Mrs. Beatrice Jubb of Torrance suffered cuts on both knees after she was involved in a collision in a parking lot.

(Continued on A-3)

March Building Tops \$4 Million

Building permits valued at \$4.2 million were issued during March in the city, according to a report just released by John J. McKinnor, superintendent of building for the city.

March totals brought to \$8,618,512 the value of building permits issued here since the first of the year. Since Jan. 1, 80 new single-family homes and 54 apartment units have been started.

Actual value of all building permits issued in March was placed at \$4,235,395.

LARGEST of the 279 permits issued was given to South Bay Realty for construction of 47 homes. The permit is valued at \$1,244,370. Other new dwelling units are being constructed under permits issued to Dan Butcher, six-homes valued at \$135,930, and Don Wilson, who is building a 24-unit apartment valued at \$297,440.

Mobile Oil Co. received four building permits with a total value of \$393,000. Work which proceeding under an

\$80 million expansion of the firm's Torrance refinery, will include foundations, switchhouses, and a lunch shelter on the refinery property.

Other major permits issued for construction or expansion of industrial plants include a \$294,000 permit for expansion of the Garrett Corp.'s AirResearch Manufacturing Co. facility here, and a \$438,900 permit issued to the Magnavox Research Laboratories.

COMMERCIAL facilities being constructed under building permits issued in March include a branch of Crocker-Citizen National Bank at 21660 Hawthorne Blvd., valued at \$79,000, and a \$658,500 medical complex at 3640 Lomita Blvd.

The value of building permits issued last month more than doubled that for March, 1965, when \$2,151,513 in permits was issued. Figures for the first quarter of 1966 show an increase of nearly \$2 million over the first quarter of 1965, according to McKinnor's report.